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**MINUTES OF THE KENORA DISTRICT BEST START NETWORK MEETING**  
held Thursday, June 25, 2009  
at the Kenora District Services Board Office in Dryden

- Present:**
- Kelly Williams, Kenora Association for Community Living, Kenora Family Connection Coalition
  - Janice Radburn, Keewatin Patricia District School Board (excused at 12:30pm)
  - Leanne Mineault, Lake of the Woods Child Development Centre
  - Janet Paterson, Patricia Centre for Children and Youth
  - Rhonda Brezinski, Kenora District Resource Teacher's Network, Dryden Children's Resource Centre
  - Clarise Henrickson, Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start (excused at 12:15pm)
  - Donna Cutler, Local Service System Management Table
  - Debby Cousineau, North Words
  - Shelly Durance, Northwest Catholic District School Board (excused 2:15pm)
  - Helen Clark, Kenora District Services Board, Ontario Works
  - Lynn Carlson, Kenora District Child Care Operators, Dryden Children's Resource Center
  - Sandra Russell, Ministry of Children and Youth Services/Ministry of Community and Social Services
  - Sarah Stevenson, Kenora District Services Board, Children's Programs
  - Mickey Samsal, Kenora District Services Board, Recording Secretary
  - Laurie Spalding, Kenora District Services Board, Aboriginal Resource Worker (ex-Officio)
- Regrets:**
- Barb Avanthey, Healthy Generations Coalition-Dryden, Ignace, Wabigoon, Vermilion Bay, Best Start Hubs
  - Arlene Williams, Community Action Program for Children
  - Kim Gardiman, Northwestern Health Unit
  - Bob Onysko, Kenora Patricia Child and Family Services
  - Dianne Aplan, Kenora District Services Board
  - Karin Laviolette, Child and Family Health Network
- Absent:**
- April Lloyd, Reproductive Health Network-Red Lake Ear Falls

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**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Co-chair, Lynn Carlson, at 10:00 a.m.

**2. Welcome/Introductions**

Lynn welcomed everyone and those members that were present introduced themselves.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

3.1 **MOTION NO.: KDBSN2009-1** Moved by Janet Paterson  
 Seconded by Kelly Williams

**RESOLVED THAT** the agenda for the Best Start Network meeting scheduled for 10:00 am on Thursday, June 25, 2009 be approved as presented.

CALLED; CARRIED **ACTION: NONE**

**4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

4.1. **MOTION NO.: KDBSN2009-2** Moved by Leanne Mineault  
 Seconded by Janice Radburn

**RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the March 25, 2009 meeting of the Best Start Network be approved as presented.

CALLED; CARRIED **ACTION: NONE**

4.2. **MOTION NO.: KDBSN2009-3** Moved by Kelly Williams  
 Seconded by Donna Cutler

**RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the March 25, 2009 meeting of the Best Start Network be approved as amended.

Add:  
 Regrets: Rhonda Brezinski Dryden Children’s Resource Center

Janet asked Sandra when a final report would be available regarding the Infant Development Program and Early Literacy Specialist’s review. Sandra advised that we should not expect to hear anything for at least another month.

CALLED; CARRIED **ACTION: NONE**

**5. Best Start Network Financial Report (Sarah Stevenson)**

- Sarah presented the report.

2009 Budget	<b>\$28,800.00</b>
<b>2008-09 Budget Carried</b>	<b>\$ 5,703.00</b>
<b>Understanding the Early Years North</b>	<b>-\$ 3,010.48</b>
<b>Balance 2008-09 Network Budget</b>	<b>\$ 2,692.52</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$31,492.52</b>

  

Best Start Network Administration Costs to Kenora District Services Board	\$10,000.00
Best Start Network Meetings	\$508.18
Tele-conferences	\$236.43
Total to June 2009-06-25	\$10,744.61
<b>Balance Remaining for 2009</b>	<b>\$20,747.91</b>

## 6. Unfinished Business

### 6.1. Terms of Reference were reviewed.

- It was identified that the Local Service System Management Table's role should be added.
- Individual Community Coalitions and the communities represented do not need to be identified in the Terms of Reference.

**ACTION: Sandra will provide Sarah with the section to be added for the LSSMT. Sarah will make amendments to the Terms of Reference as decided by the Network.**

#### 6.1.1 Best Start Hub Addition to the Terms of Reference

- Network members approved the statement describing the Best Start Hubs. Amended the bullet points to reflect the Best Start Hubs responsibility to the Network.

**ACTION: Sarah will make changes to the Terms of Reference as requested by the Network.**

#### 6.1.2. Membership of the Stakeholders

- The list of Stakeholders was reviewed.
- Due to the recent amalgamation of school board's, schools that previously were not represented will have representation by their newly designated board. A letter has been sent to the Kenora Catholic District School Board re-inviting them to participate at the Network.
- It was suggested that a letter re-inviting Aboriginal agencies to the Network be sent. A list of agencies was generated.
- It was identified that the Ministry of Education is a member of the Rainy River Best Start Network. A letter should be sent to the rep inviting them to the Kenora District Best Start Network.
- It was suggested that the Student Nutrition Program be invited to the Network.
- It was clarified that North Words, Blind Low Vision and Infant Hearing Program belong under Local Service System Management Table.
- If there are other agencies that should receive letters inviting them to participate please forward them to Sarah.

**ACTION: Deb will forward Sarah the contact information for the Ministry of Education Representative.**

**Sarah will send letters to the following agencies, inviting them to participate:**

**Aboriginal Healthy Babies Healthy Children**

**Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services**

**Dryden Native Friendship Centre**

**Red Lake Friendship Centre**

**Northwestern Health Unit Student Nutrition Program**

**Tikinagan Child and Family Services**

**Nishnawbe-Gamik Friendship Centre**

**Wassay-Gezhig Na-Nahn-Dah-We-Igaming / Kenora Area Health Access Centre**

- 6.2. Student Support Leadership Initiative
- Sarah has contacted the Kenora Catholic and Keewatin Patricia District School Boards about the SSLI, but has not had a response yet.
  - Janet stated that Patricia Centre for Children and Youth has applied for funding under this initiative to partner with two local school boards. The submission with the Northwest Catholic District School Board was denied. PCCY is waiting for approval through Keewatin Patricia District School Board.
  - Questions arose as to who is responsible for approving proposals.  
**ACTION: Sandra will look into who determines approval of the submissions for the Student Support Leadership Initiative, and report back to the Network.**
- 6.3 Protocol between Early Learning and Care Programs and Kenora Patricia Child and Family Services
- Sandra stated that the question as to who is responsible for funding early learning and care costs when children are in the care of the Children's Aid Society is a province wide issue.
  - Some DSSAB's are dealing with it case by case. Sandra suggested that we contact Carmen Ouellete in Sudbury for feedback.  
**ACTION: Sarah will contact Carmen.**
- 6.4. Network Tree final draft for approval (Sarah Stevenson)
- Sarah presented the Network Tree and Network members provided feedback.  
**ACTION: Sarah will make the changes to reflect the Membership of the Stakeholders.**
- 6.5 Communication Sub-committee Presentation of 2009-10 Plan (Leanne Mineault)
- Leanne explained the Best Start Communication Strategy Summary.
  - Activities include the development about key messages about Best Start and activities that promote the philosophy and intent of Best Start.
  - Network membership suggested that it could be a two year plan.
  - \$7,000 approved by the Network for the work of the Communication Sub committee.
- 6.6 Caring and Sharing Sub-committee Presentation of 2009-10 Plan (Sarah Stevenson)
- Sarah presented the plan of the Caring and Sharing Sub-committee.
  - The Network agreed that registration for Caring & Sharing Symposium could include all Children Services sectors.
  - An invitation has been sent to Charles Pascal requesting him to be the Keynote Speaker during the lunch.
  - Network members expressed interest in him speaking to the Network on Friday, October 2.
  - \$7,000 approved by the Network for the work of the Caring and Sharing Sub committee.  
**ACTION: Sarah will inquire with Charles Pascal's office if he is available to speak on the Friday, October 2.**
- 6.7. Parenting Programs: deferred until September 30/09.

## 7. Business

### 7.1. Correspondence

- Lynn highlighted the key points from a letter that was received from Minister Deb Mathews.  
**ACTION: Sarah will forward a copy of the letter to all Network members.**

### 7.2. “With Our Best Future in Mind” Dr. Pascal’s Report (Sandra Russell)

- A question was asked as to what the obligation is to move forward with the recommendations. Sandra explained that there were no surprises from the report. The Ministry of Children and Youth Services and the Ministry of Education were involved in the process and are committed to moving forward.
- Sandra shared that there is intent to hold a regional meeting in either Sault Ste. Marie or Thunder Bay. The network would like to see it held in Thunder Bay to reduce travel costs.
- Sandra stated there are no plans for pilots and full day early learning will be implemented in communities that are ready, recognizing that communities are at different stages of readiness.
- Sandra suggested that the Network review the Best Start Integrated Status Update Plan 2008-09 and complete an inventory of “opportunities for implementation, the risks of implementing and states of readiness” across the Kenora District.
- The following members volunteered to be part of a working group that will begin to work on the previously stated task:

Lynn Carlson                      Kelly Williams  
Leanne Mineault                 Janet Paterson  
Sarah Stevenson                 Laurie Spalding  
and a member representing the Health Unit.

**ACTION: The meeting will be held:**

**July 16/09 from 10 am to 2pm.  
in Kenora  
at Lake of the Woods Child Development Center**

**Sarah will email the district school boards inviting their participation on the working group.**

**Sarah will email a copy of the Integrated Status Update to be reviewed for the meeting.**

**Leanne will book the meeting space at Lake of the Woods Child Development Center.**

### 7.3. Update from the Ministry

- See above

### 7.4. Update from the French Language Network: None forwarded for this meeting

- 7.5. Universal Screening in Best Start Hub
- The working group will discuss this at their July 16/09 meeting.
- ACTION: Kelly and Donna have resources that they will bring to the meeting.**
- 7.6. Nomination of 2009-10 Chair or Co-Chairs
- It was unanimously decided that Kelly and Lynn will remain Co-Chairs of the Kenora District Best Start Network.
- 7.7. Sub-Committee Updates:
- 7.7.1. Communications (Leanne Mineault)
- Network website, deferred to Sept 30/09
  - Leanne reminded members to submit their applications for Best Start Partner Decals.
- 7.7.2. Caring and Sharing (Sarah Stevenson) – covered under item 6.6
- 7.8. Best Start Partners Update:
- 7.8.1. Community Coalitions
- Kenora Family Connection Coalition (Kelly Williams)
- They continue to meet and have short, informative meetings.
- Child and Family Health Network (Janet Paterson)
- They have relocated to a school and hold their meetings during lunch hour and have had better attendance.
  - A single point of access presentation was held at their last meeting.
- Healthy Generations Coalition: Regrets
- Reproductive Health Network: Absent
- 7.8.2. Best Start Hubs (Leanne Mineault)
- Red Lake Best Start Hub Grand Opening held May 22/09.
- 7.8.3. Early Learning and Care (Kelly Williams)
- Early Learning and Care Centre in Red Lake Madsen Public School held Grand Opening May 22/09.
  - Kids Zone in Kenora held their Grand Re-opening of their Newly developed Infant Program and expanded Toddler and Preschool Program on June 23/09. Kelly reports that the programs are full with a waiting list. Most programs in the City of Kenora have wait list now.
  - Sarah stated that extensive waiting lists exist in Red Lake, Sioux Lookout and Kenora.
- 7.8.4 Local Service System Management Table (Donna Cutler)
- Recently met and discussed the MCYS Strategic Framework
- 7.8.5. North Words (Debby Cousineau)
- Debby gave a history that The Network was to be an advisory to North Words.
  - Debby gave an overview of the programs objectives. 45 % of children serviced should be under the age of 3. With a focus on parent training.

- Hospital Information Package includes, “Let’s Play” booklets promoting Early Literacy.
- Blind Low Vision is serviced out of Thunder Bay, which is not ideal but the expertise of the individuals is a positive.

7.8.6. North Western Health Unit (Donna Cutler)

- Assets in Action Workshop held June 17 & 18 with 80 reps across the District attending.
- Expanding CINOT dental program into high school, however no additional dollars for screening.
- A number of H1N1 Cases in the District, communities are not being identified.
- Youth Action Alliance sat in front of Senate regarding bill C32, flavour tobacco.
- Student Nutrition Program received funding for targeted schools.
- Three year funding for Youth Action on Drugs strategy.

7.8.7. Ontario Works – No Report

7.8.8. Infant Development Programs – No Report

7.9 Development of a Meeting Summary

**ACTION: Sarah will summarize the five key points and forward to members for feedback.**

**Sarah will email this to the Network Members.**

**8. New Business**

None

**9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 30, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., KDSB Boardroom.

**10. Adjournment**

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

*Minutes approved: September 30, 2009*

*Kelly Williams, Co-Chair*